

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument comprising:
an elongated insertion section insertable into a body cavity, the insertion section having distal and proximal ends and an elongate axis;
a treatment section provided at the distal end of the insertion section at its proximal end and including a pair of jaws which are openable/closable and which are rotatable relative to an the elongate axis of the insertion section, the treatment section including a proximal end portion positioned near the distal end of the insertion section and a distal end portion far from the proximal end portion thereof in an elongate direction;
an operation section provided at the proximal end of the insertion section and including at least two handles which are openable/closable, the operation section including a distal end portion positioned near the proximal end of the insertion section and a proximal portion far from the distal end portion of the operation section thereof in an elongate direction; and
a driving rod assembly which connects the treatment section and the operation section together and which is advanced or retracted in an axial direction along the elongate axis of the insertion section, the driving rod assembly including a first end portion operably connected to the proximal end portion of the treatment section and a second end portion operably connected to the distal end portion of the operation section, the treatment section being movable in a three-dimensional direction about the proximal end portion thereof and the operation section being movable in a three-dimensional direction about the distal end portion thereof.

an opening/closing operation of the handles causing an advancing/retracting movement of the driving rod assembly in such a manner as to open/close the jaws of the treatment section, and

a ~~rotation~~ three-dimensional movement of the operation section causing the advancing/retracting movement of the driving rod in such a manner as to rotate the treatment section relative to the axis of the insertion section,

wherein when the operation section is moved in the three-dimensional direction, the treatment section is moved so that the elongate axis of the treatment section is kept substantially parallel with the elongate axis of the operation section.

2. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument comprising:

an elongate insertion section insertable into a body cavity and including distal and proximal end portions, the insertion section having an elongate axis;

a first coupling member provided at the proximal end portion of the insertion section and being rotatable on a first pivot in a first direction;

a handle provided for the first coupling member and rotatable on a second pivot in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction;

a second coupling member provided for the handle; and

a pair of driving rods connected to the second coupling member at positions sandwiching the second pivot,

said handle being rotatable from side to side and also being rotatable upward or downward with the second pivot as a support point,

said pair of driving rods moving in opposite directions along the elongate axis of the insertion section when the handle is rotated from side to side relative to the first pivot,

and moving in one direction along the elongate axis of the insertion section when the handle is rotated up or down with the first pivot as a support point.

3. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 1, wherein said insertion section includes a small-diameter pipe, and ~~said small-diameter pipe contains~~ said driving rod assembly includes a plurality of driving rods which are contained in the small-diameter pipe, extending which are extended along in the axial-direction elongate axis of the insertion section and being which are able to advance or retract along the elongate axis of the insertion section independently.

4. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 1, wherein said ~~handle includes~~ at least two handles includes a first handle and a second handle, said first handle is rotatable from side to side relative to ~~the~~ a first coupling member, with ~~the~~ a first pivot as a support point, and is also rotatable upward or downward, with ~~the~~ a second pivot as a support point, and said second handle is rotatable upward or downward relative to the first handle.

5. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein said driving rod assembly includes first and second of driving rods and said first handle is coupled to the treatment section by ~~means of~~ a pair of driving rods and allows the jaws of the treatment section to rotate from side to side and up and down.

6. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein said driving rod assembly includes a driving rod, and said second handle is coupled to the treatment section by ~~means of a single~~ the driving rod and allows the jaws of the treatment section to open or close.

7. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein, said at least two handles includes a first handle and a second handle, and when the second handle is rotated downward relative to the first handle, with the second pivot ~~as a support point~~, and becomes parallel to the first handle, the driving ~~rods are~~ rod assembly is retracted, allowing said pair of jaws to close and linearly extend, and allowing the first and second handles and said pair of jaws to be on the elongate axis of the insertion section.

8. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein, said driving rod assembly includes a pair of driving rods, and when the first and second handles are rotated upward while maintaining a parallel state, said pair of driving rods are retracted simultaneously along the insertion section, directing said pair of jaws downward in a closed state.

9. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein, said driving rod assembly includes a pair of driving rods, and when the first and second handles are rotated together from side to side, with a pivot ~~as a support point~~, one of said pair of driving rods is retracted, and another one is advanced, thereby rotating said pair of jaws from side to side.

10. (Currently Amended) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 4, wherein, said driving rod assembly includes a pair of driving rods, and when the first and second handles are opened or closed by rotating the second handle up or down relative to the first handle, the driving rods are advanced or retracted, allowing said pair of jaws to open or close.

11. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 1, wherein the proximal end portion of the treatment section is operably connected to the distal end portion of the driving rod assembly so as to be rotated in at least two directions, and the distal end portion of the operation section is operably connected to the proximal end portion of the driving rod assembly so as to be rotated in at least two directions.

12. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 11, which further comprises a first coupling member connecting the treatment section and the driving rod assembly together, the first coupling member having two pivots for moving the treatment section in two directions, and a second coupling member connecting the operation section and the driving rod assembly together, the second coupling member having two pivots for moving the operation section in two directions.

13. (New) A surgical operation instrument comprising:

- an insertion section insertable into a body cavity;
- a treatment section provided at the distal end of the insertion section and including a pair of jaws which are openable/closable and which are rotatable relative to an axis of the insertion section;
- an operation section provided at the proximal end of the insertion section and including handles which are openable/closable; and
- a driving rod which connects the treatment section and the operation section together and which is advanced or retracted in an axial direction of the insertion section,
- an opening/closing operation of the handles causing an advancing/retracting movement of the driving rod in such a manner as to open/close the jaws of the treatment section, and

a rotation of the operation section causing the advancing/retracting movement of the driving rod in such a manner as to rotate the treatment section relative to the axis of the insertion section;

wherein said handle includes a first handle and a second handle, said first handle is rotatable from side to side relative to the first coupling member, with the first pivot as a support point, and is also rotatable upward or downward, with the second pivot as a support point, and said second handle is rotatable upward or downward relative to the first handle.

14. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein said first handle is coupled to the treatment section by means of a pair of driving rods and allows the jaws of the treatment section to rotate from side to side and up and down.

15. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein said second handle is coupled to the treatment section by means of a single driving rod and allows the jaws of the treatment section to open or close.

16. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein, when the second handle is rotated downward relative to the first handle, with the second pivot as a support point, and becomes parallel to the first handle, the driving rods are retracted, allowing said pair of jaws to close and linearly extend, and allowing the first and second handles and said pair of jaws to be on the axis of the insertion section.

17. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein, when the first and second handles are rotated upward while maintaining a parallel state, said

pair of driving rods are retracted simultaneously along the insertion section, directing said pair of jaws downward in a closed state.

18. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein, when the first and second handles are rotated together from side to side, with a pivot as a support point, one of said pair of driving rods is retracted, and another one is advanced, thereby rotating said pair of jaws from side to side.

19. (New) A surgical operation instrument according to claim 13, wherein, when the first and second handles are opened or closed by rotating the second handle up or down relative to the first handle, the driving rods are advanced or retracted, allowing said pair of jaws to open or close.

20. (New) A surgical operation instrument comprising:

an insertion section including first, second and third driving rods, each having distal and proximal end portions, the insertion section having an elongated axis along the driving rods,

a pair of jaws;

a coupling section for connecting the distal end sections of the first to third driving rods to the pair of jaws so that the jaws are open or close, and are rotated in a first plane including the elongated axis and a second plate normal to the first plane, and

two handles connected to the proximal ends of the first to third driving rods to move the first driving rod to open or close the jaws, to simultaneously move the second and third driving rods to rotate the jaws in the first plane and to relatively move the second and third driving rods to rotate the jaws in the second plane.